

Message Text

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ORIGIN AID-31

INFO OCT-01 EA-11 ISO-00 EUR-25 TRSE-00 EB-11 CIAE-00

INR-10 NSAE-00 RSC-01 IGA-02 L-03 OMB-01 /096 R

DRAFTED BY AA/SA:RHNOOTER/EA/VN:RWENZEL

APPROVED BY EA:MSTEARNS

EUR/NE:JPOWENS (DRAFT)

SA/VN:MWEDEMAN

SA/RD:KRABIN

----- 119461

R 290021Z DEC 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAIGON

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 252127

E.O. 11652: GDS

SUBJECT: IBRD ASSISTANCE

REF: (A) SAIGON 21493; (B) STATE 222475

1. IBRD INFORMS US THAT THERE HAS BEEN NO REPEAT NO ADVERSE DECISION REGARDING ASSISTANCE FOR VIETNAM AS STATED IN REFTEL. LOAN PAPER IS PROCEEDING ON SCHEDULE AND IS IN PROCESS OF REVIEW BY HIGHER LEVEL IBRD OFFICIALS NOW.

2. FURTHER, IBRD IS PLANNING TO HOLD ANOTHER INDOCHINA CONSULTATIVE GROUP MEETING OF DONORS FEBRUARY 11 AND 12 ALTHOUGH INVITATIONS HAVE NOT YET BEEN ISSUED. IBRD REPORTS THAT GERMANS, WHO WERE COOL TO CONSULTATIVE GROUP BEFORE, NOW BELIEVE SUCH A GROUP SHOULD BE FORMED.

3. IBRD HAS ALSO BEEN TRYING TO PERSUADE SCANDINAVIANS TO REDUCE THEIR OPPOSITION TO AID FOR VIETNAM. BANK OFFICIALS BELIEVE THIS PROBLEM CAN IN DUE COURSE BE HANDLED.

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4. WE HAVE MADE A CONSIDERABLE EFFORT TO ENLIGHTEN THE

NORDICS ON THE PRG ISSUE (REF B). WE WILL CONTINUE THESE EFFORTS TO ENHANCE THEIR UNDERSTANDING OF THE REALITIES OF GVN AND THE NON-REALITIES OF THE PRG.

5. WHILE ABOVE INFORMATION IS REASSURING, IBRD IS CONCERNED THAT AN INCREASED LEVEL OF HOSTILITIES IN VIETNAM COULD MAKE BOARD APPROVAL MORE DIFFICULT. IBRD WILL ALSO BE INFLUENCED BY PROGRESS OF FOURTH IDA REPLENISHMENT IN U.S. CONGRESS, BUT PROGRESS SO FAR HAS BEEN GOOD AND IBRD HAS NO REASON TO HOLD BACK ON THIS SCORE AT LEAST UP TO THIS POINT.

6. IN SUMMARY, PROSPECTS STILL LOOK REASONABLY GOOD FOR IDA LOAN IN CY 1974. IBRD OFFICIALS ARE BEING EXTREMELY HELPFUL IN MOVING THIS LOAN THROUGH THE MANY OBSTACLES ALONG THE WAY, AND WE ARE COORDINATING OUR EFFORTS WITH THEM VERY CLOSELY. KISSINGER

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